



**CALIFORNIA  
HIGH-SPEED RAIL  
AUTHORITY**

**Weekly Executive Director's Report, September 19-25, 2009**

**FROM:** Mehdi Morshed  
**TO:** Authority Board Members

TOPIC / UPDATE

LINE SECTION

AUTHORITY STAFF

RELEVANT DATE

NEXT STEP / ACTION NEEDED

**TOP ISSUES**

**ARRA Application**

The Board on Sept. 23 approved the staff recommendation for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act High-Speed and Intercity Rail Track 2 funding. The application is being prepared for submission by the Oct. 2 deadline.

All

Mehdi Morshed,  
Tony Daniels

10/2/2009

The application is being forwarded to the Governor's Office for review before Oct. 2 submission to the federal government.

- The adopted staff recommendation can be viewed here:

[http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/images/chsr/20090922101922\\_MMARRABoardMemo9-18-09.pdf](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/images/chsr/20090922101922_MMARRABoardMemo9-18-09.pdf)

**Atherton Lawsuit**

The petitioners in the lawsuit on Sept. 24 filed a proposed judgment. Petitioners' are arguing that Judge Kenny should order a stay of all project-level work in the San Jose - Merced project section.

All

Christine Sproul

10/5/2009,  
10/9/2009

Legal team continues to prepare for court filings and hearing date.

- The Authority's responsive papers are due to be filed Oct. 5th; and the court will hear argument on the matter on Friday, October 9th in Sacramento. The court may issue a tentative ruling on this matter on October 8th.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Nothing to report this period.

## ENGINEERING/ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

### Scoping Meetings Held

Following the Federal Railroad Administration submitting the Notice of Intent (NOI) for circulation (8/21), and the Authority delivering the Notice of Preparation (NOP) to the State Clearinghouse (8/24), initial public scoping meetings were held for this section this week, seeking input of citizens and public entities within the section: 9/15/2009-Bakersfield; 9/16/2009-Tehachapi; 9/17/2009-Palmdale.

Palmdale -  
Bakersfield

Dan Leavitt, Carrie  
Bowen

9/15-17/2009

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

### Bills - SB 783 on the Governor's Desk

Senate Bill 783 by Sen. Roy Ashburn was enrolled Sept. 10 and sent to the Governor's desk. This bill requires the High-Speed Rail Authority to prepare, publish, and adopt a business plan by January 1, 2012 and every two years thereafter.

Program

Steve Schnaidt

9/10/2009

Await the Governor's signature or veto.

- Information about the bill can be viewed here:  
[http://leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/postquery?bill\\_number=sb\\_783&sess=CUR&house=B&author=ashburn](http://leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/postquery?bill_number=sb_783&sess=CUR&house=B&author=ashburn)

## OUTREACH EFFORT HIGHLIGHTS

### Pre-Scoping Briefings for Legislators

Regional management and outreach staff conducted briefings of legislators and their staffs prior to the beginning of scoping meetings in the section. The meetings included:

- Asm. Ed Hernandez and Staff (September 17, 2009)
- State Sen. Gil Cedillo's Staff (September 18, 2009)
- State Sen. Carol Liu's Staff (September 18, 2009)
- State Sen. Denise Ducheny and Staff (September 18, 2009)

Los Angeles -  
San Diego

Jeff Barker

9/17-18/2009

Continue to keep legislators apprised of scoping meetings, progress

### Alternatives Analysis Meetings

Regional management and outreach staff participated in alternatives analysis workshops with:

- City of Anaheim (Sept. 21)
- Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (Sept. 22)
- Gateway Cities' public works directors (Sept. 24)

Los Angeles -  
Anaheim

Jeff Barker

9/21-24/2009

## MEDIA

Nothing to report this period.

## PUBLIC EVENTS

### Mobility 21

A coalition of Southern California transportation, business, and local government entities held a summit in Los Angeles on Sept. 21.

Carrie Pourvahidi  
presented

9/21/09

<http://www.mobility21coalition.com/>

## OTHER AUTHORITY BUSINESS

### Letter to Transbay JPA

Executive Director Morshed sent a letter Sept. 17 to the Transbay Joint Powers Authority, as well as to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and legislators, attached to which was a memo from the Attorney General's office outlining the Authority's role in studying and analyzing alternatives within the environmental review process.

San Jose - San  
Francisco

Mehdi Morshed

9/10/2009

[http://cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/images/chsr/20090917175421\\_CHSRA%20Transbay%20Letter%20091709.pdf](http://cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/images/chsr/20090917175421_CHSRA%20Transbay%20Letter%20091709.pdf)

## LOOKING AHEAD...

### Burlingame Town Hall

The city of Burlingame will hold a public town hall this coming Saturday focusing on high-speed rail in the Peninsula. State legislators are expected to attend.

San Jose - San  
Francisco

Robert Doty and  
Dominic Spaethling  
will represent the  
Authority

9/26/2009

### Assembly, Labor Trip to D.C.

Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani plans another trip to D.C., along with a coalition of labor organizations, in support of California's ARRA high-speed rail application.

All

Steve Schnaidt

10/6-8/2009

### Federal Stimulus (ARRA)

The ARRA application is due by Oct. 2. The Authority plans a number of events that day throughout the state (Bay Area, Central Valley, Los Angeles) to celebrate the application's submission.

All

Mehdi Morshed,  
Tony Daniels

9/23/2009,  
10/2/2009

### Palo Alto Design Workshop

The city of Palo Alto is sponsoring a two-day design workshop to discuss the specifics of how a high-speed rail line is constructed and its options (i.e., grade separations, tunneling, etc.) and how the project could look through the city.

San Jose - San  
Francisco

Robert Doty,  
Dominic Spaethling

10/3-4/2009

**NOI/NOP Released**

The Federal Railroad Administration submitted the Notice of Intent (NOI) for circulation on 9/18 and the dates of scoping meetings in the LA-San Diego section have been finalized.

Los Angeles -  
San Diego via  
the Inland  
Empire

Dan Leavitt, Jose  
Martinez

8/28/2009

**Scoping meetings:**

- 10/13/2009-La Jolla;
- 10/14/2009-San Diego;
- 10/15/2009-Escondido;
- 10/19/2009-Murrieta;
- 10/20/2009-Corona;
- 10/21/2009-Monterey Park;
- 10/22/2009-Riverside
- 10/26/2009-West Covina;
- 10/28/2009-El Monte;
- 10/29/2009-Pomona;
- 11/2/2009-Ontario;
- 11/3/2009-San Bernardino

**Regulatory Agency Meetings:**

- 10/15/2009-Carlsbad (USF&W);
- 10/22/2009-Riverside (CARWQCB)

**Alternatives Analysis City Meetings**

Regional project management and outreach staff are scheduled to meet with city staff from San Jose, Burlingame, South San Francisco, and San Carlos to discuss the alternatives analysis process and solicit comments and questions.

San Jose - San  
Francisco

Robert Doty

9/28/2009,  
10/2/2009,  
10/8/2009